

Specifications for Commercial Refrigeration

Whitney Leeman, Ph.D.

ARB Workshop on Stationary Source High-GWP
Early Action Items

February 15, 2008

Outline

- Background
- Data Sources, Emissions and Trends
- Existing Regulations & International Experience
- Potential Control Strategies
- Emission Reduction Projections
- Regulatory Concepts & Costs
- Data Gaps, Ongoing Research, Questions
- Working Group Formation
- Timeline & Contact Information

Background

- **Types of Commercial Refrigeration Systems**

- Direct expansion (DX) systems used in supermarkets, cold storage warehouses, industrial food processing
- Standalone equipment (open and closed display cases) and refrigerated vending machines



Background (continued)

- **Commercial Refrigeration Systems Emissions Sources**

- Direct refrigerant emissions occur during equipment manufacturing/charging, lifetime (from leaks, ruptures, maintenance), and end-of life (EOL)
- Indirect emissions (CO₂E emissions resulting from energy use) occur during equipment manufacture, lifetime operation, and EOL

Existing Systems

- **Direct Expansion (DX) Systems**
 - Also called centralized or multiplex systems
 - Supermarkets, cold storage warehouses, built-up refrigeration/freezing systems for food processing, etc.
 - High direct emissions
 - Leaks result from vibration and thermal expansion of numerous pipes, threaded joints, fittings, and valves
 - Ruptures can result in huge refrigerant losses
 - High indirect emissions due to energy inefficient system components, designs
 - Lack of heat recovery in some systems, open cases, poor air curtains, inefficient lighting, use of anti-sweat heaters, etc.

Existing Systems (continued)

- **Standalone Equipment and Vending Machines**

- Low direct emissions (EOL), high indirect emissions
- Large numbers of standalone cases and vending machines in CA
 - ~500,000 refrigerated vending machines in CA
 - Open and closed standalone cases yet to be enumerated

Data Sources, Emissions, and Trends: Rule 1415

- **Rule 1415 Data**

- **Reporting of annual ODS usage for RAC systems > 50 lbs in SCAQMD only**

- **Leak rates exceed 35% for 11% of systems, 100% for 2.7% of systems**
 - **The top 15 SIC codes emit 80% of total**

SIC Code	Description	Emissions MTCO ₂ E/year	Facilities
5400	FOOD STORE	94820	255
5490	GROCERY-RETAIL	54116	207
2013	FOOD PROCESSOR	11001	5
4960	DISTRICT HEATING AND COOLING	6188	10
8700	OFFICE BUILDING	5137	141
4810	TELEPHONE COMMUNICATION	5071	137
	WHOLESALE TRADE NON-DURABLE		
5142	GOODS/PACKAGED FROZEN FOODS	4643	1

Data Sources, Emissions, and Trends: ARMINES

- **Commercial RAC Inventory Development for California**
 - Contractor Denis Clodic/ARMINES
 - Preliminary estimates, DX systems

Direct emissions or leaks	Indirect emissions or energy use
Leak rates ~30% per year or ~2.7 MMTCO ₂ E	Indirect CO ₂ emissions ~2.3 MMTCO ₂ E
Typical CA DX system charge ~2800 lbs (large release potential)	
Banked refrigerant in CA DX systems is ~7.5 MMTCO ₂ E	

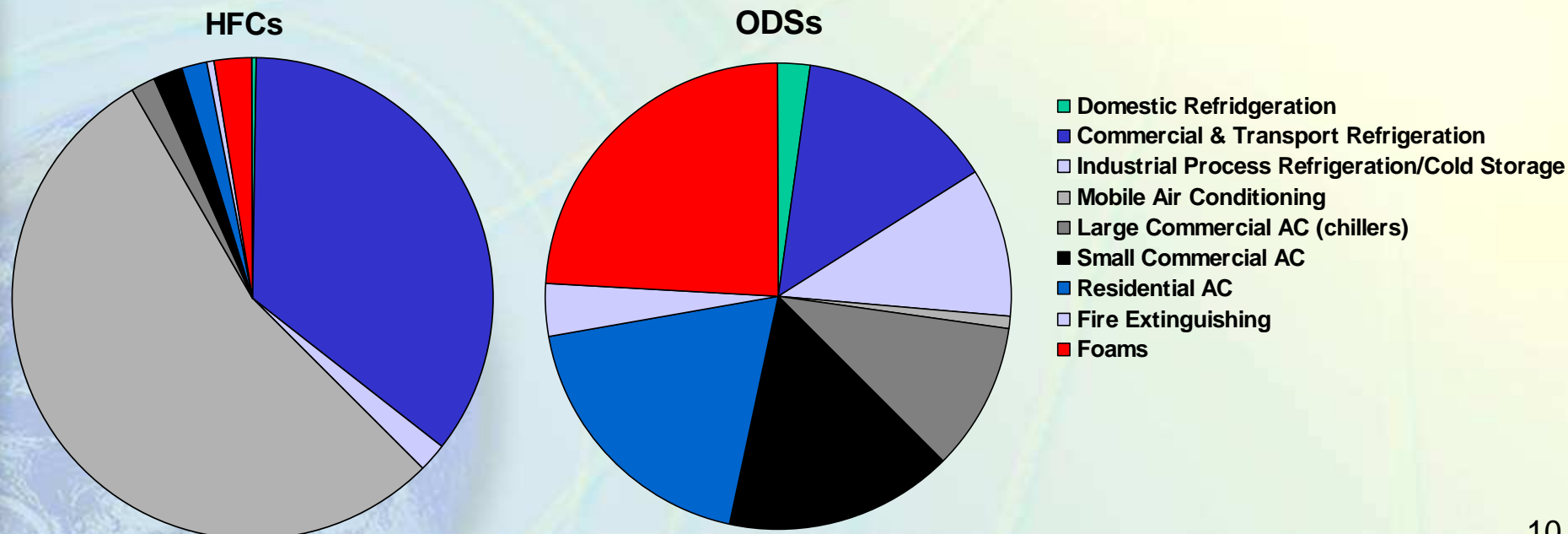
Data Sources, Emissions, and Trends: ARMINES (continued)

- **CA RAC Inventory: Preliminary Estimates, Continued**
 - Standalone systems, direct emissions
 - Emission rates estimated at 1% of the charge per year for stand-alone equipment, most of which are EOL emissions
 - Standalone systems, indirect emissions
 - More standalone systems in CA than anticipated; energy use ~50% of the commercial refrigeration total

Data Sources, Emissions, and Trends: USEPA Vintaging Model

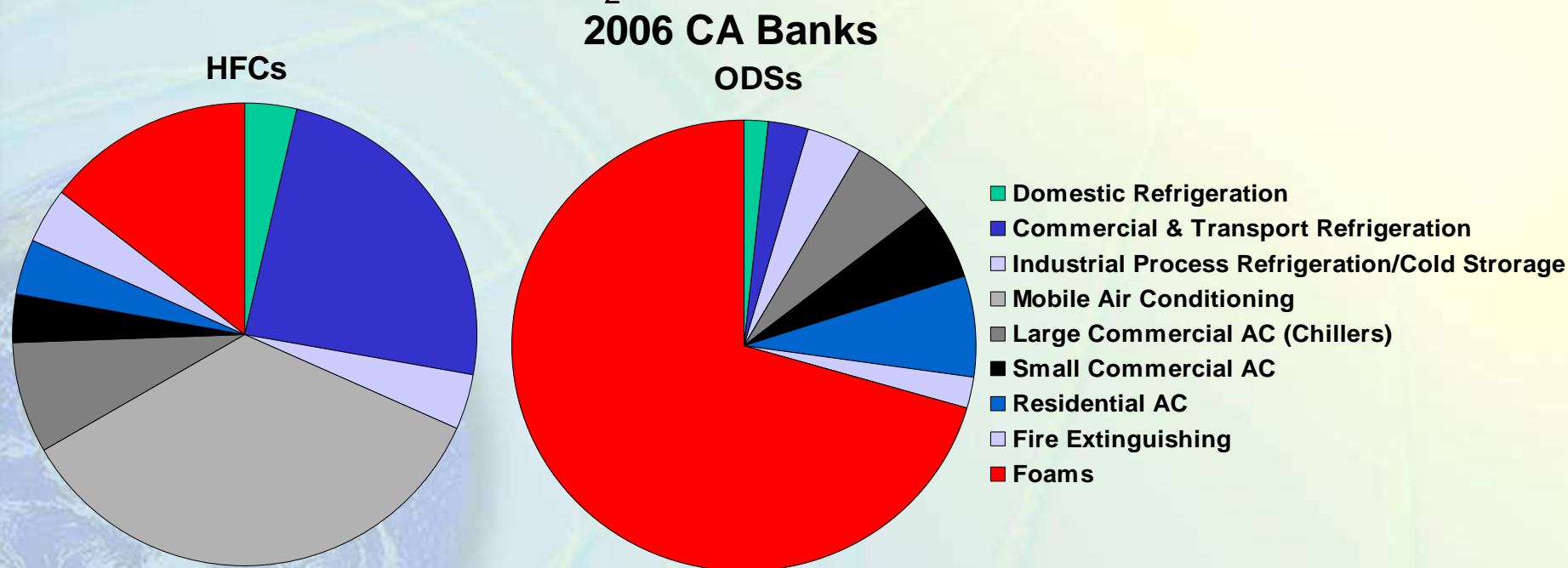
- **Estimated CA Commercial/Industrial/Cold Storage Refrigeration Emissions**
 - HFC emissions ~2.5 MMTCO₂E
 - ODS emissions ~6 MMTCO₂E

2006 CA Emission Sources



Data Sources, Emissions, and Trends: USEPA Vintaging Model

- **Estimated CA Commercial/Industrial/Cold Storage Refrigeration Banks**
 - HFC Banks ~12.5 MMTCO₂E
 - ODS Banks ~35 MMTCO₂E



Existing Regulations

- **ODSs Have Some Sales, Record-Keeping/Reporting, Technician Certification, and Emissions Restrictions**
 - Section 608 of CAAAs and SCAQMD Rule 1415
- **HFCs Subject to “No Venting” Provision of CAAAs, Section 608**

International Experience

- **STEK Regulation**

- The Dutch regulation on leak-free refrigeration equipment, which includes the following:
 - Flared joints shall not be used
 - Pipes shall be joined by welded or brazed joints
 - Systems with a charge >3 kg shall be inspected annually
 - Systems with a charge of >1000 kg shall be under constant supervision
 - Logbooks must be kept for all systems with a charge >3 kg
 - Refill or top-off is only permitted if leaks are identified and repaired

International Experience (continued)

- **EU F-Gas Regulation**

- Similar to, but more restrictive than, Section 608 of the CAAAs
 - Covers only Kyoto gases
 - Requires containment, record-keeping, recovery, training/certification, reporting, labeling, use control
 - Also specifies certain market prohibitions (shoes and tires containing SF₆, one-component foams, one-way cylinders, aerosols, etc.)

Potential Control Strategies

- **DX Systems**

- Direct Emissions Reduction

- Indirect or Secondary Loop (SL) Systems

- Can utilize low-GWP refrigerants, or significantly reduced quantities of high-GWP refrigerants

- Charge reduction important to reduce emissions from ruptures

- Automatic leak detection in machine rooms possible

- Benefits include easier leak detection/repair, fewer refrigerant purchases

Potential Control Strategies (continued)

- **DX Systems, Continued**

- Indirect Emissions Reduction

- Machine Room Technologies

- Evaporative condensers
 - Floating head pressure controls
 - Heat recovery

- Display Case Technologies

- Add doors to display cases
 - Improved air curtains
 - Energy-efficient reach-ins, evaporator and condenser fan motors, compressor systems, lighting
 - Anti-sweat heater controls
 - Hot gas defrost

Potential Control Strategies (continued)

- **Standalone Systems and Vending Machines**
 - Direct Emissions Reduction
 - Alternative refrigerants currently possible (i.e. CO₂)
 - Future innovations may include thermoacoustic or magnetic refrigeration

Potential Control Strategies (continued)

- **Standalone Systems and Vending Machines**

- Indirect Emissions Reduction

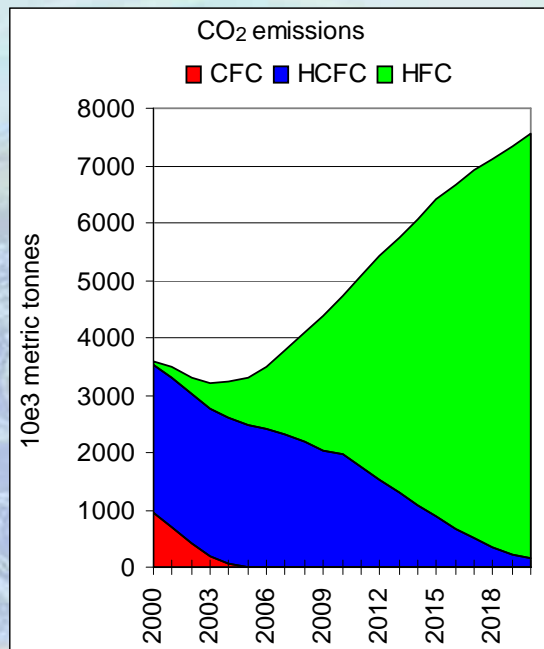
- Compressor and component improvements (i.e. efficient lighting, fans, anti-sweat heaters, addition of doors)
 - USDOE is developing energy conservation standards for:
 - Self-contained and remote display cases (ASHRAE 72, 2005, for open and closed display cases)
 - Vending machines (ASHRAE 32.1, 2004)
 - Walk-in coolers and freezers (no test methods yet)

Emission Reduction Projections

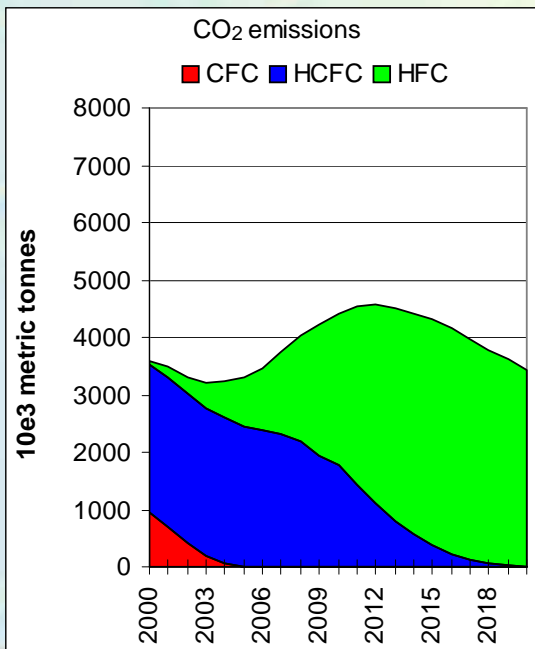
- DX System Direct Emissions 2020 Forecast: BAU, SL, and SL With Low-GWP Refrigerants**

Source: Interim Draft Report, ARMINES, Centre énergétique et procédés - CEP
<http://www-cep.ensmp.fr/english/>

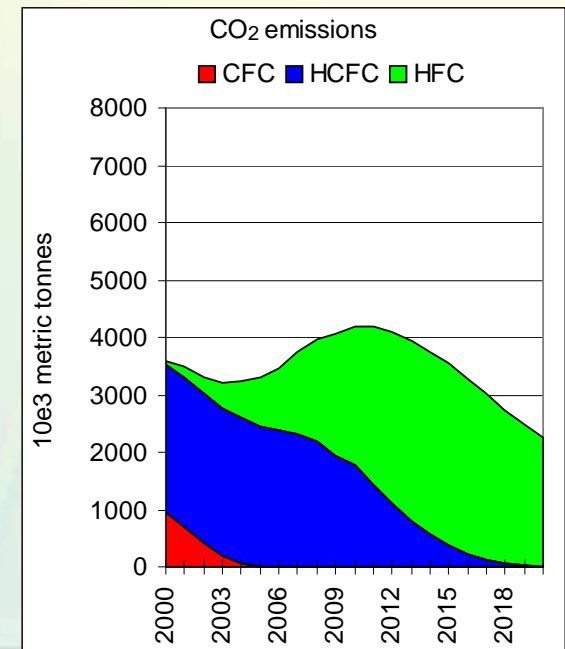
Business As Usual



Secondary Loop (SL)

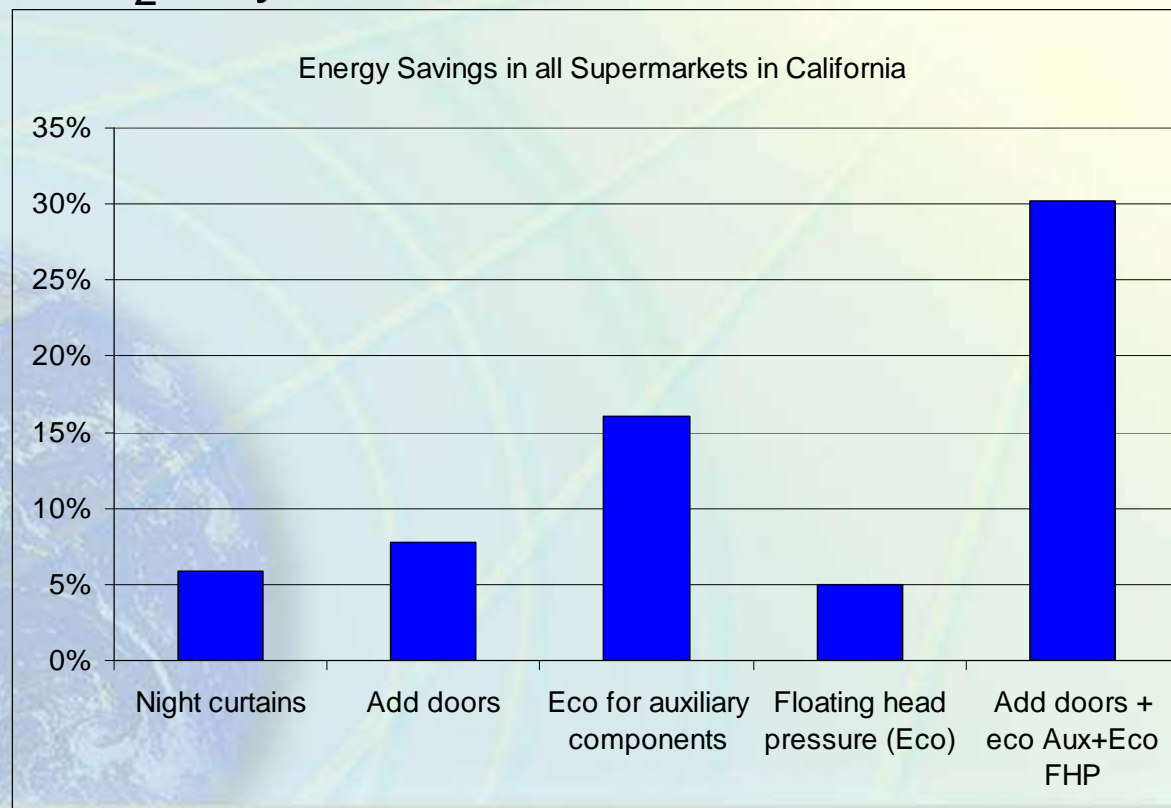


SL + Low-GWP



Emission Reduction Projections (continued)

- **Energy Savings For CA Supermarkets**
 - 30% savings relative to BAU
 - 0.7 TWh/year or 0.3 MMTCO₂E/year, in 2007; 3 MMTCO₂E by 2020



Regulatory Concepts

- **New Refrigeration Systems**
 - Limit direct emissions to X% for all new systems
 - Will likely require installation of indirect systems
 - Full accessibility to all piping
 - Automatic leak detection
- **Existing and New Retail Food Systems**
 - Increase energy efficiency by 30%

- **First Approximation of Costs**
 - Installation costs expected to dominate over energy saving device costs for new systems
 - USEPA and Oak Ridge National Lab estimate that for a SL system with HFC refrigerant, installation costs will be 20% higher than baseline DX system
 - Using ammonia refrigerant results in installation costs 75% higher than the baseline case
 - Maintenance costs are expected to be lower than for the baseline case

Costs (continued)

- **First Approximation of Costs, Continued**
 - Costs could largely be offset by maintenance, refrigerant, and energy savings benefits
 - Benefits depend largely on future refrigerant and energy costs

Data Gaps, Ongoing Research

- **Data Gaps**
 - Costs, benefits, and payback periods associated with installing new systems and upgrading existing systems
- **Ongoing Research**
 - RAC inventory and energy efficiency contract with Denis Clodic/ARMINES

Questions

- Questions
 - What should trigger the upgrading of existing systems (i.e. repair or future compliance date)?
 - Should DOE test methods be adopted earlier for standalone equipment and vending machines?

Working Group Formation

- **Focused Technical Group Formation**
- **Identify Key Stakeholders and Agency Partners**
- **Meet at Least Twice, Over Several Months**
- **First Meeting in March 2008**
- **If Interested, Please Provide Your Information**

Timeline (Estimated)

March 2008	Working Group/Stakeholder Formation
Summer 2008	Working Group/Stakeholder Consultation Meeting
Winter 2008	1 st Public Workshop to Discuss Proposed Control Strategies and Options
Spring 2009	2 nd Working Group/Stakeholder Consultation Meeting
Winter 2009	2nd Public Workshop on Proposed Strategies
Summer 2010	Regulatory Language and ISOR Finalized
Winter 2010	Board Meeting on Action

Contact Information

– Whitney Leeman, Ph.D.

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategies Section

916-327-9480

wleeman@arb.ca.gov

– More Information

- Visit: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/commref/commref.htm>
- Join list serve at:
<http://www.arb.ca.gov/listserv/listserv.php>



Questions?